Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A device for treating a bone structure, comprising:

a first biocompatible rigid or semi-rigid member having a first common base and a first plurality of ribs extending along at least a longitudinal portion of the first common base;

a second biocompatible rigid or semi-rigid member having a common base and a second plurality of ribs extending along at least a longitudinal portion of the second common base;

wherein the device is configured to be placed in a collapsed state by engaging the first and second pluralities of ribs in an interposed arrangement, and configured to be placed in a deployed state by disengaging the first and second pluralities of ribs.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a coupling mechanism that couples the first and second members together.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein the coupling mechanism is a hinge.

4. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second pluralities of ribs are flutes.

5. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second members have a combined cross-sectional profile, and each of the first and second members has an individual cross-sectional profile, the combined cross-sectional profile being substantially the same as the individual cross-sectional profile.

6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second members have a combined cross-sectional circular profile, and each of the first and second members has a respective individual cross-sectional arcuate profile, the combined cross-sectional profile having a radius that is substantially equal to a radius of curvature of the individual cross-sectional profile.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second members are sized to fit within a vertebra.

8. (Original) A method of treating a bone structure having opposing sides and a compression fracture therebetween, the method comprising:

providing a device with first and second members, each of which has a common base and a plurality of ribs extending along at least a longitudinal portion of the respective common base;

placing the device in a collapsed state by engaging the ribs of the respective first and second members in an interposed arrangement;

introducing the device within the bone structure while in the collapsed state;

placing the device in a deployed state by disengaging the ribs of the respective first and second members, wherein the first and second members move in opposite directions to displace the opposing sides of the bone structure in opposite directions.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the device is placed in the respective collapsed and deployed states by hinging the first and second members relative to each other.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the first and second pluralities of ribs are flutes.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the first and second members have a combined cross-sectional profile, and each of the first and second members has an individual cross-sectional profile, the combined cross-sectional profile being substantially the same as the individual cross-sectional profile.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the first and second members have a combined cross-sectional circular profile, and each of the first and second members has a respective individual cross-sectional arcuate profile, the combined cross-sectional profile having a radius that is substantially equal to a radius of curvature of the individual cross-sectional profile.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the bone structure is a vertebral body.

14. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the device is deployed until the compression fracture has been completely reduced.

15. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising introducing treatment medium into the bone structure after deployment of the device within the bone structure.

16. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising stabilizing the bone fracture.

17 – 30 (Cancelled).